

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5-18 and 33-37 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 2, 4 and 32 have been amended. No new matter has been added. The amendment has simply rewritten claims 2 and 4 in independent form and has corrected the claim dependency of claim 32. Claims 2, 4 and 19-32 are presented for further examination in this application and are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of claims 19-31 and for the indication that claims 2 and 4 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have amended claims 2 and 4 to recite independent claims incorporating each and every limitation of the claims from which they previously depended. Applicants have also amended claim 32 to correct a dependency typographical error. Accordingly, claims 2, 4 and 19-32 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejections

Claim 32-34 and 36-37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for alleged indefiniteness. Claims 33-34 and 36-37 have been canceled in the interests of expedited examination, and claim 32 has been amended to provide proper antecedent basis. Therefore, Applicants respectfully

request the withdrawal of the rejection based on 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections

Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 12, 13, 15-17 and 33 and 35-37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated.

Although Applicants respectfully disagree with the merits of these rejections, in the interests of expedited examination, Applicants have canceled each of these claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejections based under 35 U.S.C. 102.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejections

Claims 14, 18 and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable.

Although Applicants respectfully disagree with the merits of these rejections, in the interests of expedited examination, Applicants have canceled each of these claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejections based under 35 U.S.C. 103.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe the present paper to be a complete and thorough response to the Final Office Action. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the application is respectfully submitted to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a timely favorable action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions regarding this response or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket # 101867.56513US).

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Respectfully submitted,



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